

Sharing God's Love in Our Community Through Prayer, Study and Action

St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Afton, NY
(Member of the Chenango District)

The Parish News

www.stannsaftonny.org

The Newsletter of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Afton, NY

Clergy: The Reverend Fr. David A. Hanselman Cell: 761-4601 Office: 656-9502

If you desire Father David to visit you or give you a call, please contact him at one of the numbers above.

In an emergency and Fr. David can't be reached, please contact one of the wardens.

Wardens: Betty Vail: 639-1201 Tracey Tallmadge: 343-1301



November - as good a month as any for some general housekeeping! So, first and foremost, as I approach the anniversary of my ordination, I'd like to fulfill one of my responsibilities as a priest. According to page 445 of the Book of Common Prayer, from time to time I'm supposed to remind all of you that as Christians we have the duty to plan for our eventual death by writing a will and providing for our families (if we have any) and, if able, "to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."

It's probably no surprise, but this naturally leads into another important consideration – stewardship - in all its "time, talent and treasure" glory. To be perfectly honest, when it comes to financial stewardship - i.e. the dreaded pledge, or more appropriately "estimate of giving" – we seem to have 3 basic choices: don't support the parish, support the parish with "our money" and finally we can give as a response to God's many gifts to us.

So, there are two fundamental ways to think about our support of our parishes. On the one hand, we sometimes look at our offerings as our support for our parish - our part in paying the bills to "keep the church open." This approach can be seen in such statements as "the church is always asking for money." Or, "how can I be sure the church will take good care of my money?" This approach generally views our money as "my money."

The second fundamental way to think about our support for our parish, oddly enough, doesn't really view support of the parish as "supporting the parish" at all. Rather, when we adopt the attitude that all we have is essentially God's, we see our support of our parish in terms of simply returning to God some of what God has given to us.

You see, in the first instance, it's really a matter of you making a gift to God. In the second, you're not giving God a gift, you're simply responding to all of God's many gifts in your life (including, your life).

No doubt you can easily guess which approach I opt for, but, it's not that I think the first approach is necessarily bad. I think it's almost always a good thing to support your parish! It can become a problem, though, if your pride in supporting your parish reaches such strength that you begin to think it's YOUR parish more than it's GOD's parish.

A few weeks ago, our Sunday reading was Jesus healing 10 lepers and only 1 returned to say thanks and praise God. 1 in 10 returning to give thanks seems a very small percentage, but it's (coincidentally enough) 10%, a tithe. Isn't it interesting that we see 1 in 10 healed lepers returning to give thanks as such a small amount and yet we can't help but think of 10% of our income as a very great amount...

This day and always, may God continue to profoundly bless you!

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE

Note to all who serve: It would be most helpful if, when you cannot make your assigned date, you would arrange for a substitute. If you are unable to do that, please notify a warden. Thanks for your cooperation!

Service Schedule						
Date	Service	OT Reader	Epistle Reader	CS	EM	Acolytes
Nov 3	HC	D.Vail	D.Vail	BV	BV	D.Vail/T.Tallmadge
Nov 10	MP	J.Rettberg	J.Rettberg	RF	-----	T.Tallmadge/B.Vail
Nov 17	HC	C.Cimini	C.Cimini	AC	CC	A.Cimini/B.Vail
Nov 24	MP	T. Vail	T.Vail	TV	-----	D.Wieber
Dec 1	HC	T.Tallmadge	T.Tallmadge	DV	TT	B.Vail
Church School						
		Morning Prayer		Food Pantry		
Nov. 3	K.Vail			Nov. 11	Closed - Holiday	
Nov. 10	R.Felldin	Nov. 10	D.Wieber	Nov. 13	J.Rettberg/J. Seacat	
Nov. 17	K.Vail					
Nov. 24	B.Vail	Nov. 24	A&C Cimini			
Lectionary (Year C)						
Date	Service	OT Reading	Psalm	Epistle Reading	Gospel Reading	
Nov 3		Daniel 7:1-3,15-18	Psalm 149	Ephesians 1:11-23	Luke 6:20-31	
Nov 10		Haggai 1:15b-2:9	Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22 or Psalm 98	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38	
Nov 17		Isaiah 65:17-25	Canticle 9	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19	
Nov 24		Jeremiah 23:1-6	Canticle 16	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43	
Dec 1		Isaiah 2:1-5	Psalm 122	Romans 13:11-14	Matthew 24:36-44	



Altar Duty for the month of November is Melrose Kelly, 639-1090 and Carol Cimini, 693-2907. If you are giving flowers in memory of a loved one, please notify Peter Vail, 607-639-1444 no later than the Thursday before the designated Sunday so that he can include a notice in the bulletin.

St. Ann's Prayer List for November 2019

It has been suggested that the names of individuals on the parish prayer list be included in the newsletter. A current listing follows. The names listed are not necessarily members of the parish and may include individuals or other requests for which we have been asked to pray. The clergy persons of the Chenango District are included. Please remember these individuals in your personal prayers. Send or give any additions or changes to Tom Vail, 639-1201. Please note: Long term names will be left on the list indefinitely, short term names for two months unless updated.

Short Term

Raevin
 Aggie
 Linda
 Robert
 Jeannette
 Sarah
 Billy
 Karen
 Caroline
 Cole
 Rhinnen

Long Term

Fr. David Hanselman
 Fr. Steven White
 Deacon Kay
 Pastor Becky
 Rev. Elizabeth Gillett
 Fr. Geoff Doolittle
 Very Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe
 Bishop Michael Curry
 The Revs Ralph & Liz Groskoph
 Emmanuel Church
 Epiphany Church
 Zion Church
 St. Paul's Church
 St. Andrew's Church
 St. Matthew's Church
 St. Peter's Church
 Carol Pete
 Joyce Mya
 Holly Cindy
 Lois Hailey
 Clifford Richard
 Bill Kevin
 Dakota Nate
 Marion Amaya
 Bonnie



The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Divinity School. The Learning Communities Initiative of the Diocese. The following prayer is from the Evening Prayer service in the Book of Common Prayer:

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, sooth the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous: and all for your love's sake. Amen.



Anniversaries

Birthdays

11/15 Ron & Cindy Sherman
11/24 Al & Pat Tucker

11/6 Robin Felldin
11/15 Sophia Hanselman



Don't forget to FALL
back 1 hr November 3



Church Terms: ACOLYTE: Greek, “one who follows.” A youth who wears a cassock and cotta or other vestment and assists in the service by caring for such subordinate duties as lighting and extinguishing the candles, finding the pages of the proper Scripture readings, distributing and receiving the offering plates, and assisting the celebrant ministering at the altar and in the sanctuary.



St. Ann's Vestry Synopsis

October 2019

- The newly elected vestrypersons and warden, Mado Cimini, Judy Rettberg and Dan Vail were welcomed and thanked for their willingness to serve. Our October outreach was combined with September and \$400 was sent to the Episcopal Relief and Development organization to help victims of the hurricane in the Bahamas.
- Our assessment and pledge to the Diocese of Central New York were reviewed. The requested assessment for next year was \$3900.83. The suggested pledge is \$2340.50. These amounts are based on a percentage of what is called "normal operating income." The assessment is the amount required to provide the "Episcopal" services that come from the Diocese, that is the cost of having a Bishop and her support. The pledge is to pay our share of other expenses of the Diocese, not necessarily having to do with the cost of supporting a Bishop. St. Ann's has always met our pledge and typically have given slightly more than the pledge figure suggested by the Diocese. That was approved again for 2020.
- Dan has talked with a company that uses stone and oil to repair driveways and parking lots. They will do an estimate of the cost of applying stone and oil to our parking lot. The vestry had previously looked at having the lot paved, but the estimates were more than we could justify.
- Our copier is starting to show its age. Woodie offered to talk with his contact at Pro Copier Co. and get a "ball park" idea of the cost to replace, when that becomes necessary.

VESTRY will meet on November 17, 2019





November 3rd

MISSION OF MIRACLES program. Our sister churches in El Salvador are in need of items that they cannot obtain in their country. There are lists of these items next to the collection box. Please bring items in no later than **November 3rd**. Our delegates from St. Ann’s will deliver these items to convention on November 8th. Thank you to everyone who participated in this worthy project.



November 10th

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY will be **November 10th**. Please bring your “intention” cards to this service or return them in the envelope provided in the mailing.



November 24th

BRASS CLEANING, Sunday, **November 24th** after the Sunday service. Many hands make light work!



November 26th

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE, Tuesday, **November 26th** 7:00 PM St. Ann’s Episcopal Church. All are WELCOME





Parable of Stewards

A few years ago, public television aired a series on Japan. In one episode, Tokyo was the focus. The population density there drives property costs to astronomical heights. The interviewer talked with a man who owned a small garden plot, where he grew vegetables. The interviewer said, “You could sell this land for a fortune. You could build four houses here.” The gardener looked mystified. “Sell this land? But it isn’t mine. My father gave it to me, and his father gave it to him. How can I sell what isn’t mine?”

That man understood the meaning of being a steward of a gift. All of us have what we have because it has been given to us – whether in return for labor, as a birthright, as a reward for service, or as a result of the generosity of God. John the Baptist understood this principle well. “No one receives anything except as a gift from heaven.” (John 3:27)

John knew what it was to be a caretaker. His joy was to see that his work was successful; he had prepared the way for the Lord. We are all John Baptists; stewards, not owners, of the world in which we live. In advent, it is good to consider the state of the world which God has committed to our care.

Perhaps we should picture the world as a china shop, in which signs remind us, “You Break It, You Buy It.” We do pay, and dearly, for every species that becomes extinct, for every energy source we exhaust, and for the air and water we pollute in our clumsiness.

We are God’s invited guests here on earth, and should act like guests, not owners. If during our time on earth we acted more like guests in a dear friend’s home, we might take better care of it. Our dear friend, the Bridegroom, is coming home soon. Isn’t it time we prepared for his arrival?

Tobias S. Haller



The Final Word

Thankfulness: *“Then a new king came to the throne of Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done.” Exodus 1:8*

“Through Joseph, God had saved the land of Egypt from starvation. But that was 400 years earlier. This new pharaoh didn’t know anything about what Joseph had done so long ago. Time blurs a thankful spirit—in a nation and in a person. Have you forgotten something special someone did for you? Have you allowed your thankfulness for Christ’s work on the cross to fade? Let your Bible daily stir your memory of God’s great works for you. Then remember to thank him! And while you’re at it, remember to express thanks to a friend or loved one who deserves it too.” NLT - GZ

St. Ann’s Episcopal Church
P. O. Box 22
Afton, New York 13730

SHARING GOD’S LOVE IN OUR
COMMUNITY THROUGH PRAYER, STUDY
AND ACTION

Clergy: The Rev. David A. Hanselman

Wardens: Betty Vail
Tracey Tallmadge

Worship Service: Sunday 9:15 am

Address Label Here

